

used to study rhodopsin in the intact disc membrane, as only residues of rhodopsin located in the aqueous phase in the exposed side of the disc membranes were expected to be labeled. In these experiments, rhodopsin was labeled by transglutaminase using putrescine and dansylcadaverine as detectable substrates.

Please re-write the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 28 as follows:

It has been discovered, surprisingly, that certain substrates of transglutaminase are particularly desirable for use as linking molecules to attach agents to proteinaceous material such as body tissue. It also has been discovered that molecules, including native peptides and conjugates according to the invention, can be screened to determine those that can be substrates of transglutaminases, and then such molecules can be attached to body tissue. Methods of attaching agents to body tissue and methods of screening molecules using transglutaminase are provided. In addition, compositions of matter suitable as substrates for transglutaminase and kits containing such molecules together with transglutaminase are provided.

Please re-write the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4 as follows:

The invention is based in part on the discovery that polymers bearing multiple reactive (with transglutaminase) carboxamides or multiple reactive aliphatic amines are particularly useful linking molecules for attaching agents to proteinaceous material such as skin and hair. The closest prior art teaches away from using carboxamides and also from using polymers bearing multiple reactive aliphatic amines as defined herein, for such a purpose as described in greater detail below.

Please re-write the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 28 as follows:

Preferred linking molecules are polymers bearing multiple reactive carboxamides and/or aliphatic amines that are substrates of transglutaminase. Carboxamides that are substrates of transglutaminase are well known and include glutamines. Aliphatic amines that are substrates of transglutaminase also are well known and are exemplified in, for example, U.S. patent 5,490,980, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Unlike the '980 patent, however, which depicts single aliphatic amine moieties and plural such moieties as independent substituents in certain circumstances, the present invention involves in one aspect using a plurality of aliphatic amines spaced apart at discrete intervals, preferably along the length of a branched or unbranched polymer. It has been discovered, surprisingly, that the spacing of the reactive moieties can be important to achieving the results of the present invention.

In the Claims:

Please delete claims 53 and 65.